

PATENT**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action and respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented below.

Specification Objections

The specification was objected to for including various underlined or bold-font subject headings, and for including some typographical errors. In view of the "Amendments to the Specification" presented above, Applicants believe the objections to the specification have been overcome.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 7, 13 and 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,381,493 (Stadler et al.).

Stadler et al. discloses a system that detects ischemia by monitoring changes in ST segments based on samples taken from portions of the cardiac cycle including a sample from the QRS complex, a plurality of samples from the ST segment and an isoelectric-point sample, which is preferably between the P wave and the R wave. See column 17, line 63 through column 18, line 3 and figures 4 and 5. By way of background, the QRS complex (i.e., the R wave) represents ventricular depolarization while the ST segment represents the end of ventricular depolarization and the beginning of ventricular repolarization (the T wave).

Each of independent claims 1 and 16-20 relate to methods and system for identifying cardiac ischemia that involve one or more of identifying, examining, comparing, and/or detecting segments or portions of electrical cardiac signals subsequent to or following ventricular repolarization. This is distinct from the system of Stadler et al which detects cardiac ischemia based on segments (i.e., ST segments) of electrical cardiac signals that are prior to, and include the beginning of ventricular repolarization. Thus, the Stadler et al. system does not detect cardiac ischemia based

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on segments of cardiac signals subsequent to ventricular repolarization, as claimed by Applicants.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that Stadler et al. fails to teach the invention claimed in independent claims 1 and 16-20. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration of the §102 rejections of these claims and dependent claims 2-4, 7, 13 and 15.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,560,368 (Berger). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,609,023 (Fischell). Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler et al. in view of U.S. Application Publication 2003/0153956 (Park et al.). Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler et al. in view of U.S. Application Publication 2003/0208129 (Beker et al.). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,272,379 (Fischell et al.).

In view of the foregoing analysis of independent claim 1 in view of Stadler et al., Applicants believe that the rejections under §103 are rendered moot as each of dependent claims 5, 6, 8-12 and 14 depends from allowable independent claim 1.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of Applicants' claims 1-20 are believed to be in order.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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